

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AID-05 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-08 /086 W
-----058476 162325Z /70

O R 161840Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5855
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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USIA FOR IOP, ILA, IPS/PL. IBS/PL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: ANDREW YOUNG PRESS CONFERENCE

FOLLOWING IS THE COMPLETE TEXT OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE OF AMBASSADOR
ANDREW YOUNG AT HIS 8:00 A.M. PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE AMERICAN
EMBASSY RESIDENCE IN PORT-AU-PRINCE, AUGUST 15:

Q: MR. AMBASSADOR, AS AN INDEPENDENT STATE AND A FREE STATE, I
WOULD SAY THAT DURING SEVERAL YEARS OF INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS OUR
POSITION HAS ALWAYS BEEN TO UNDERSTAND HOW TO BENEFIT FROM NEGOTIA-
TIONS WITH ALL NATIONS. BUT CYNICS TEND TO DECLARE THAT ONLY THE
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RADICAL AND TURBULENT COUNTRIES HAVE RECEIVED ATTENTION FROM GOVERN-
MENTS BECAUSE THEY DEMAND ATTENTION. DO YOU THINK IT WOULD
BE A VALID POINT TO ALL THAT I'VE JUST SAID, NAMELY, TO KNOW
IF IT IS NECESSARY TO BE TURBULENT TO RECEIVE AID?

R: IN MANY RESPECTS THE TURBULENT STATES ARE THE STATES WHO HAVE
ATTEMPTED TO RESPOND TO THE NEED OF THE POOR AND I WOULD SAY THAT

JAMAICA MIGHT BE A CLASSIC EXAMPLE OF THAT. JAMAICA, I THINK, IS THE FIRST OF THE CARIBBEAN STATES TO RECEIVE AID NOT BECAUSE IT'S TURBULENT, BUT BECAUSE THERE IS LEADERSHIP THERE DEDICATED PRIMARILY TO FEEDING THE POOR, TO PROVIDING JOBS FOR THE JOBLESS, SOCIAL SERVICES FOR THE SICK, AND I THINK THAT IT'S IN RESPONSE TO THOSE KINDS OF IDEAS WHICH QUITE OFTEN DOES BRING TURBULENCE, THAT WE

HAVE RESPONDED; IT'S TO THE IDEALISM AND NOT THE TURBULENCE THAT WE RESPONDED.

Q: MR. AMBASSADOR, DOES YOUR PRESENCE HERE INDICATE THAT THE UNITED STATES IS SATISFIED WITH THE PROGRESS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN HAITI?

R: MY PRESENCE HERE INDICATES THAT WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS EVERYWHERE, AND IN NO WAY IMPLIES ANY JUDGEMENT OR EVALUATION WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN, IN ANY CASE, IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO MAKE IN LESS THAN 24 HOURS.

Q: DO YOU COME WITH SPECIFIC QUESTIONS THAT PERHAPS AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL HAS PRESENTED OR TELEGRAMS THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS, ABOUT POLITICAL QUESTIONS OR HUMAN RIGHTS?

R: WE HAVE RECEIVED MANY QUERIES FROM MANY SOURCES, AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL BEING ONE, AND IN OUR TALKS WITH THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE UNCLASSIFIED

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AND THE PRESIDENT, WE WILL BE SHARING THESE CONCERNS.

Q: WE ARE VERY PLEASED WITH THE PRESENCE OF AMBASSADOR YOUNG IN HAITI. WE HAVE GIVEN IT A GREAT DEAL OF ATTENTION, SPEAKING TO YOUR REMARKS ON THE PHILOSOPHY THAT IS TRANSLATED BY THE AMERICAN TENDENCY TO TRANSPOSE THE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN ITS FOREIGN POLICY, I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW FROM AMBASSADOR YOUNG, WHO REPRESENTS THE UNITED STATES IN THE U.N., WHOSE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION IS ALSO DEVOTED TO THIS PROBLEM, IF THE THINKING OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT IS TO ASSOCIATE WITH ITS FOREIGN POLICY MORE PRESSURE ON NEW POLITICAL TECHNIQUES TO TRANSFORM THE UNITED NATIONS, CITADEL OF THE USELESS BUREAUCRACY, INTO A DYNAMIC ORGANISM, CAPABLE OF WORKING IN FAVOR OF THESE NEW IDEALS PROCLAIMED BY THE PRESIDENT?

R: THIS IS THE REASON THAT I ACCEPTED THE RESPONSIBILITY AS U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS. I THINK THAT THE UNITED NATIONS CAN BE THE DYNAMIC FORUM WHICH YOU IMPLY AND I WOULD HOPE THAT THE REPRESENTATIVE OF HAITI WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH US ON THAT PROCESS. I HAVE HAD A VERY GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH AMBASSADOR CHARLES.

Q: IN THE PROCESS OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES, WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF IT WERE A CHOICE BETWEEN BRINGING SOME CHANGES IN THE CONSCIENCE OF THE PEOPLE RIGHT NOW OR PRESS FOR THE APPLICATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, WHAT WOULD BE YOUR ATTITUDE?

R: I DON'T THINK THOSE TWO THINGS ARE OPPOSITE. I THINK THEY GO VERY MUCH TOGETHER, AND THAT HAS BEEN OUR EXPERIENCE. I COME FROM THE SOUTH OF THE UNITED STATES AND ALL THE YEARS WHEN BLACKS WERE OPPRESSED, THE SOUTH REMAINED POOR AND CORRUPT; WHEN THE SOUTH OF THE UNITED STATES STOPPED PERSECUTING BLACKS AND WE BEGAN TO WORK TOGETHER--BLACKS AND WHITES TOGETHER--WE NOT ONLY ACHIEVED A NEW LEVEL OF ECONOMIC PROSPERITY, WE ELECTED THE

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PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. PRESIDENT CARTER

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COULD NOT HAVE BEEN PRESIDENT IN A SOUTH THAT DID NOT GIVE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL OPPORTUNITIES TO BLACK PEOPLE.

Q: MR. AMBASSADOR, YOU HAVE SUGGESTED THAT THE COUNTRIES OF THE CARIBBEAN SHOULD ORGANIZE ON A REGIONAL BASIS IN ORDER TO BETTER BENEFIT FROM AMERICAN ASSISTANCE. HOW COULD THIS BE DONE?

R: I THINK THAT THE CARIBBEAN BASIN IS MADE UP OF MANY, MANY SMALL COUNTRIES. AND IN ANY BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES, THERE IS ALWAYS A SUSPICION OF TOO MUCH INFLUENCE, BUT WHEN ALL OF THE NATIONS COME TOGETHER AND MAKE PLANS, THEN WE HAVE THE CARIBBEAN ITSELF DECIDING ITS OWN DESTINY. THE OTHER THING IS THAT WHILE THE UNITED
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STATES MAY BE THE RICHEST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD, WE TOO HAVE FINANCIAL PROBLEMS AND THERE ARE OTHER NATIONS IN THE CARIBBEAN THAT RIGHT NOW ARE DOING QUITE WELL BECAUSE OF THEIR OIL RESOURCES, AND THEY ARE ALREADY ATTEMPTING TO HELP THEIR NEIGHBORS. BOTH VENEZUELA AND TRINIDAD HAVE CONTRIBUTED HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO OTHER COUNTRIES IN NEED, BUT THEY HAVE ASKED US WOULD IT NOT BE BETTER FOR US ALL TO WORK TOGETHER AND DECIDE THE OBJECTIVES OF DEVELOPMENT FOR THE CARIBBEAN AND SUPPORT THOSE OBJECTIVES. I MUST SAY THAT VENEZUELA, TRINIDAD, COSTA RICA, JAMAICA AND GUYANA ALL HAVE KNOWN SOME STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM. I WAS SUPRISED AT THE NUMBER OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT NOW IN POWER WHO AT ONE TIME WERE POLITICAL PRISONERS THEMSELVES; AND SO THEIR SYMPATHIES ARE WITH THE FORCES OF FREEDOM IN EVERY COUNTRY AND THEY WILL STRIVE TO PROTECT HUMAN RIGHTS IN ANY CARIBBEAN COALITION.

Q: CAN HUMAN RIGHTS BE COMPATIBLE WITH THE PRESIDENCY FOR LIFE? ALSO, YOU HAVE CALLED FOR SACRIFICE ON THE PART OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE. CAN WE INTERPRET THAT AS AN INDICATION THAT YOU ARE GOING TO SUGGEST TO THE PRESIDENT THAT HE CHANGE HIS LIFE STYLE?

R: LET ME SAY THAT WHAT WE SEE AS A RESULT OF OUR AFFIRMATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE HEMISPHERE IS ALREADY SEEN IN GOVERNMENTS SUCH AS ECUADOR AND EVEN DHILE, IS A MOVING AWAY FROM MILITARY DICTATORSHIPS AND THEY ARE TALKING IN TERMS OF FREE ELECTIONS. THE UNITED STATES DID NOT TELL THEM TO DO THAT; BUT WHEN PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THE WAY THE WINDS ARE BLOWING, IF THEY WANT TO GO WITH THOSE WINDS, THEY TRIM THEIR SAILS ACCORDINGLY. I THINK THAT APPLIES TO BOTH QUESTIONS. I DON'T INTEND TO GIVE ANYBODY ANY

ADVICE ABOUT THEIR PRIVATE LIVES.

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Q: SINCE AMBASSADOR YOUNG REPRESENTS THE CARTER GOVERNMENT, WE ARE GOING TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF HIS VISIT HERE TO ASK HIM THE CONCEPT, THE ATTITUDE OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT WITH RESPECT TO THE INVIOABILITY OF NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY. THE CARIBBEAN IN THE PAST HAS OFTEN BEEN THE OBJECT OF BRUTAL INTERVENTION OR THE THREAT OF INTERVENTION ON THE PART OF THE UNITED STATES. WHAT WILL BE THE POSITION OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION IN THIS REGARD?

R: I THINK I SAID IN MY OPENING REMARKS THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAS NO INTENTION OF INTERFERING OR INTERVENING IN ANY SECRET OR CLANDESTINE WAY IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF ANY GOVERNMENTS. BUT WE WILL OPENLY AND PUBLICLY MAKE OUR POSITIONS KNOWN AND OUR CONGRESS HAS ORDERED THAT WE CAN ALWAYS SPEND OUR TAXPAYERS' MONEY IN PLACES WHERE IT CONTRIBUTES TO HUMAN FREEDOM AND DEVELOPMENT.

Q: MR. AMBASSADOR, THE REPUBLIC OF HAITI, FIRST BLACK COUNTRY FREE AND INDEPENDENT IN THE WORLD, HAS ALWAYS BEEN TIED TO THE BLACK CITIZENS IN THE UNITED STATES. OUR CAPITAL IS THE ONLY ONE IN THE WORLD WHERE ONE CAN FIND JOHN BROWN AVENUE AND MARTIN LUTHER KING AVENUE. HAITIANS HAVE NEVER FORGOTTEN THE NOBLE ATTITUDE IN THEIR FAVOR IN 1891 OF THE FIRST BLACK AMERICAN IN THIS PERIOD, MR. FREDERICK DOUGLASS, MINISTER OF THE UNITED STATES IN HAITI, WHO PREFERRED TO RESIGN HIS OFFICE RATHER THAN TO FACILITATE THE OCCUPATION OF HAITI BY THE UNITED STATES. LATER, EMINENT BLACK AMERICANS SUCH AS DR. WHITE AND WILLIAM DUBOIS, HAVE HELPED US TO PUT AN END TO THE AMERICAN OCCUPATION IN HAITI. NOW THAT OUR BLACK BROTHERS PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION, CAN THE FIVE MILLION HAITIANS RELY ON THEM TO TRANSFORM THE ECONOMIC STATE OF THEIR COUNTRY WHICH IS CONSIDERED ONE OF THE BLACK COUNTRIES WHICH IS AMONG THE POOREST OF THE WORLD?

R: ALL OF THE MEN YOU MENTIONED, SIR, WERE PIONEERS IN THE
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FIGHT FOR FREEDOM, BOTH IN THE UNITED STATES AS WELL AS IN HAITI. AND I THINK YOU CAN COUNT ON US TO DO WHATEVER WE CAN TO ADVANCE THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM, HUMAN DIGNITY AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY IN THE ENTIRE HEMISPHERE, INCLUDING HAITI. THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH.

GOMEZ

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Message Attributes

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Subject: ANDREW YOUNG PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING IS THE COMPLETE TEXT OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE OF AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG AT HIS 8:00 A.M. PRESS CONFERENCE AT
TAGS: SOPN, OVIP, US, HA, (YOUNG, ANDREW)
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